

# The Division of Developmental Disabilities

**T**he Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD) provides lifelong services to people with developmental disabilities including mental retardation, autism, cerebral palsy, spina bifida and traumatic brain injuries. DDD offers services in the least restrictive environment possible, promoting individual development and independence.

The Division offers a range of family and community support services to help people with developmental disabilities live the fullest lives within their own homes, whenever possible. Community-based services include respite care, counseling, home and job support services and day programs, such as; adult training services which help individuals to develop basic vocational skills; sheltered workshops where clients receive work related training, job counseling and referrals; and supported employment services where clients work with job coaches as part of a work crew.

Of course, community living may not be possible for all of our clients. To help those who require more around-the-clock care, DDD operates seven statewide residential centers that serve approximately 3,500 people with developmental disabilities. The centers are set up as homes with 24-hour staff and all necessary services provided on sight. The centers serve the population that would not flourish in a less restrictive environment. However, when possible, community placement is an option.

DDD serves more than 6,000 people in licensed community residences operated by private agencies or individuals under contract with DDD. The residences include group homes; supervised apartments; supported living programs; skill development homes; and family care homes.



The staff at the developmental centers work around the clock to care for their clients. Direct care staff provide personal and medical care, training and supervision and typically work with a small group of clients, depending on varying levels of independence. In Fiscal Year 2000, DDD offered a \$1/hour raise to direct care workers throughout the state, including those working in the residential centers.

**FY'01 Total DDD Budget  
\$936,956,000**